



# Be *ARMed* with the Facts

*ARMS Measures the Economic Health of U.S. Agriculture*

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is measuring the health of the agricultural economy by conducting the 2005 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS).

**ARMS** is the only survey that reveals the complete financial picture of our rural and agricultural communities. With the many challenges facing America's farmers and ranchers, it is vital to collect the facts.

If you are contacted for **ARMS**, please respond. Your response will help tell the true story of America's agricultural producers.



For more information on ARMS, visit:

[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

-OR-

[www.ers.usda.gov/data/ARMS](http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/ARMS)

## ***Benefits to Producers:***

- \$ **ARMS** data will be used to evaluate current Farm Bill programs and policies and develop recommendations for the 2007 Farm Bill.
- \$ **ARMS** data will be used to measure the effect of escalating fuel costs on producers' bottom lines.
- \$ **ARMS** data are used by the Federal Reserve Bank to publish reports that help farm credit lenders to assess the lending risk to producers.
- \$ **ARMS** data are used to measure the effects of natural disasters by evaluating cash receipts and net farm income.

"Our legislators use the information a great deal, especially on things like the estate tax. Whenever farm organizations and policymakers make critical decisions that affect us producers, such as the Farm Bill or the Energy Bill, we producers definitely need decisions based on facts and not opinions."

*Gary Branum*

President, Great River Soy Co-op  
New Madrid, MO

"It is so important to have reliable data to separate fact from fiction. This information is used in a confidential matter to help us producers, not hinder us. When I was state director for the New York Farm Service Agency, we used statistical data for all the programs we administered and implemented."

*Ron Robbins*

Old McDonald's Farm  
Sackets Harbor, NY

"When you are trying to put a loan package together for your banker or lending institution, you have to have the figures. You must know the trends to make educated decisions. It's very important, as producers, to know where you are headed."

*Jimmy Carter*

Coldwater Farms  
Taft, TN

**ARMS data are used to make decisions based on facts and not opinions.**

Paid Promotion by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service